ATTN: CHIEF MEDIA BUNCAU

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Comments in Response to Localism Notice of Proposed Rulemaking MB Docket No. 04-233

I submit the following comments in response to the Localism Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (the "NPRM"), released Jan. 24, 2008, in MB Docket No. 04-233.

Any new FCC rules, policies or procedures must not violate First Amendment rights. A number of proposals discussed in the NPRM, if enacted, would do so and must not be adopted.

- (1) The FCC must not force radio stations, especially religious broadcasters, to take advice from people who do not share their values. The NPRM's proposed advisory board proposals would impose such unconstitutional mandates. Religious broadcasters who resist advice from those who don't share their values could face increased harassment, complaints and even loss of license for choosing to follow their own consciences, rather than allowing incompatible viewpoints to shape their programming. The First Amendment prohibits government, including the FCC, from dictating what viewpoints a broadcaster, particularly a religious broadcaster, must present.
- (2) The FCC must not turn every radio station into a public forum where anyone and everyone has rights to air time. Proposed public access requirements would do so even if a religious broadcaster conscientiously objects to the message. The First Amendment forbids imposition of message delivery mandates on any religion.
- (3) The FCC must not force revelation of specific editorial decision-making information. The choice of programming, especially religious programming, is not properly dictated by any government agency and proposals to force reporting on such things as who produced what programs would intrude on constitutionally-protected editorial choices.
- (4) The FCC must not establish a two-tiered renewal system in which certain licensees would be automatically barred from routine renewal application processing. The proposed mandatory special renewal review of certain classes of applicants by the Commissioners themselves would amount to coercion of religious broadcasters. Those who stay true to their consciences and present only the messages they correspond to their beliefs could face long, expensive and potentially ruinous renewal proceedings.
- (5) Many Christian broadcasters operate on tight budgets, as do many smaller market secular stations. Keeping the electricity flowing is often a challenge. Yet, the Commission proposes to further squeeze niche and smaller market broadcasters, by substantially raising costs in two ways: (a) by requiring staff presence whenever a station is on the air and, (b) by further restricting main studio location choices. Raising costs with these proposals would force service cutbacks and curtailed service is contrary to the public interest.

We urge the FCC not to adopt rules, procedures or policies discussed above.

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Signature

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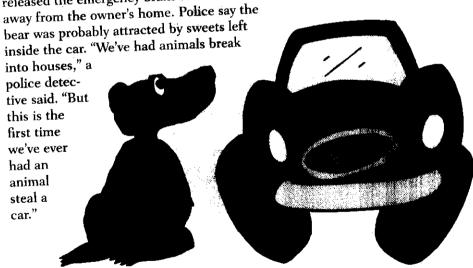


# Shedding the Evidence

When police officer Dave Dehard found a vehicle on the side of the road near Vernon Township in New Jersey, he immediately sniffed out signs of foul play. The passenger window had been broken, the door panels were damaged, and the vehicle was filled with bristly, black hair.

Police determined that the car had been stolen, but there was no sign of the thief. Using his skills in deduction, Officer Dehard ruled out the possibility of an extremely hairy delinquent taking a joy ride or a fur-wrapped criminal running from the law. The clue was in the hair . . . that a black bear left behind.

Apparently, the bear clawed his way into the car and then accidentally released the emergency brake for a short ride (actually, a roll), 40 or 50 feet



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#### THE MODERN MAN'S BIATHLON

It's taking chess players to a new level. The rules of this game are simple: You win with a checkmate or a knockout. Sound interesting? Get ready to rumble with chessboxing, a hybrid sport started in Europe that combines chess and boxing. Billed as the ultimate physical and mental combat, the 11 rounds in each match alternate between chess and boxing, following the rules of both disciplines. If there is no winner after 11 rounds of punching and castling, the fighter with the most points in the ring is crowned the victor.

World championship matches are organized by the World Chess Boxing Organisation with the slogan, "Fighting is done in the ring and wars are waged on the board." With competitors and fans growing in ranks, exhibition chessboxing is scheduled in Los Angeles, Paris, Prague, Zurich, and Moscow this year.



### THE BIGGEST LEANER

What do you do when your church's steeple tower is tilting at an alarming angle?



Parishioners of a church in Suurhusen, Germany, took action by applying for the Guiness World Record of Most Lopsided Building.

The Guinness officials determined that the fifteenth-century tower was leaning at a 5.19 degree angle. To everyone's amazement, the church tower had a sizeable slant over the Tower of Pisa, which came in at a 3.97 degree angle. A longstanding leaner had been toppled from the record books.

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Growing Old Together

Americans, on average, move every seven years. The thought has never crossed Dorothy Loveless's mind.

Loveless's parents moved into a three-bedroom cottage in Closworth, England, in 1901 when her father, Charles, got a job as a shepherd. Loveless, the youngest of four children, was born in the living room of the three-bedroom house in 1907, without

the amenities of electricity or running water and only a fireplace for heat. Loveless never married and never moved, living through two world wars and the deaths of her parents and her siblings. In the 1960s Loveless added a bathroom and ten years ago central heating, but her home is essentially unchanged.

And now, Loveless has just marked her 100th birthday in the same cottage where her first through 99th celebrations have taken place. "I

QUOTABLES

Don't worry about the world coming to an end tomornow:

It's preads tomorrow:

Australia.

You an lear many thirds from four condrent, how much patience you have for incance.

Wealth Consists not in having many possessions but in having few wants.

wouldn't want to spend my 100th birthday anywhere else," she said. "I miss the noise and the laughter but at least I have the memories." Then she added, "I must be doing something right. I still feel like a spring chicken."



Centenarian Dorothy Loveless outside her cottage at Closworth, near Yeovil, England.

## True Love

Valentine's Day is an official occasion to boldly declare love and affection to special people in our lives—or at least to give them cards and heartshaped candies. But have you



ever sent a valentine to someone you didn't like? I'm not talking about in first grade, when a teacher made you give a valentine to everyone in the class. Have you ever read through every card in the store to find the perfect expression of love, or spent hours choosing a Valentine's Day gift—all for someone who insulted you, hurt you, or deliberately snubbed you? Probably not.

But there is someone who purposely gives a gift of love to everyone, regardless of how he's been treated. That's precisely the message of the gospel. "God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners" (Romans 5:8).

The truth is that we have all mistreated God by acting in ways

that displease him: "Everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard" (Romans 3:23). But God expressed his love for the world by sending his Son to take away our sin—while we

didn't care for him at all. "This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins" (1 John 4:10).

We can come to God exactly as we are—with all our faults and failures—and have the assurance that he will forgive us and love us forever. God's gift of love enables us to spend all of eternity with him. "God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

God has already reached out to you; all you have to do is receive his love and accept him as your Lord and Savior. When you do, you'll experience true love—the kind that lasts for all eternity.

Have you ever read any of the Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John? Not just isolated verses or stories from them, but the Gospels as they unfold the story of the greatest life ever lived? We will send a free copy of the Gospel of John, written in everyday language, to anyone who requests it. No obligation. Send your requests to Have a Good Day, PO Box 220, Wheaton, IL 60189. It can change your life.

Have a Good Day and a nice Forever.